

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method is provided for the semi-synthesis of taxane intermediates useful in the preparation of paclitaxel and docetaxel from 9-dihydro-13-acetylbaccatin III. The preparation of a suitably protected baccatin III backbone from 9-dihydro-13-acetylbaccatin III, and the insertion of the phenylisoserine side chain onto the protected baccatin III from 9-dihydro-13-acetylbaccatin III to form the taxane derivatives, paclitaxel and docetaxel is disclosed.

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